

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method of searching images for data contained within said  
2 images, said method comprising the steps of:  
3 providing a plurality of training images including groups of one or more of charts  
4 selected from a plurality of known charts consisting of column charts, bar  
5 charts, line charts, pie charts, scatter charts, area charts, surface charts, and  
6 three-dimensional charts;  
7 extracting image attributes from said training images by identifying image features  
8 characteristic of a particular numerically generated image type;  
9 classifying training images according to said extracted attributes;  
10 selecting a particular classifier for each group of training images;  
11 collecting a plurality of images available from remotely connected computers;  
12 indexing said collected images; and  
13 providing an index of said collected images for interrogation by users.

1 2-3. (Canceled)

1 4. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 3 1 wherein the step of extracting attributes  
2 identifies image features and assigns any identified image features as attributes, said image  
3 features including horizontal lines, vertical lines, percentage of white area, circular arcs and  
4 text.

1 5. (Original) A method as in claim 1 wherein the step of classifying images comprises  
2 providing image attributes for each image to a plurality of classifiers, said plurality of  
3 classifiers being selected from the group consisting of classification trees, discriminant  
4 functions, regression trees, support vector machines, neural nets and hidden Markov models.

1 6. (Original) A method as in claim 5 wherein one of said classifiers is selected for each chart  
2 type.

1 7. (Original) A method as in claim 5 wherein said collected images are indexed in the  
2 indexing step by extracting attributes and providing extracted attributes to said classifiers,  
3 said classifiers identifying an image type, said images being indexed according to said  
4 attributes and said image type.

1 8. (Original) A method of extracting data from images located on remotely connected  
2 machines, said images having been indexed according to claim 7, said method comprising the  
3 steps of:

4 receiving a query from a user;  
5 identifying indexed images responsive to said query; and  
6 presenting identified images to said user in response to said query.

1 9. (Original) A method as in claim 8 wherein prior to presenting identified images to the  
2 user, chart data is extracted from the images and the extracted chart data is presented to the  
user, the user being allowed to select images for viewing.

1 10. (Original) A method as in claim 9 further comprising the steps of:  
2 providing additional data as supplemental data to said extracted chart data; and  
3 generating a chart representative of supplemented data, said generated chart  
4 being provided responsive to said query.

1 11-25. (Canceled)